

REMARKS

This communication is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed February 11, 2009 and also to the telephonic interview conducted on May 18, 2009.

Applicant's Summary of Examiner Interview

Applicant appreciates the time taken by Examiner Kane and Examiner Barron to have a telephonic interview on May 18, 2009, with the undersigned and with inventor Peter Avritch. During the interview, no exhibits were shown.

The discussion centered around claim 1 and the Montville and Caldwell references.

It was agreed during the interview that Applicant would amend claim 1 to more particularly recite the type of information that is encrypted by the service (more particularly, to recite that the type of information that is encrypted is metadata about the email, but not necessarily the email message itself).

In addition, Examiner Kane agreed during the interview to contact the undersigned to further discuss the claims – should the present amendment not result in an allowance – prior to mailing a new office action in this application.

Claim Rejections Based on Prior Art

During the telephonic interview, the Examiners indicated that the amendment to claim 1, to recite that the type of information that is encrypted is metadata about the e-mail, would overcome the outstanding rejection. In addition, Applicant has further indicated in claim 1, beyond what was agreed by the Examiners would make claim 1 allowable over the cited references, that:

the meta-data information includes **at least an e-mail address of the sender and an e-mail address of a receiver of the e-mail message.**

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Furthermore, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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/ASH/
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